October 17, 1969

Mr. James Rowley, Director
United States Secret Service
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Rowley,

Enclosed are a copy of my today's letter to Mr. Rhodes and the enclosure, marked as is the copy to him.

You will recognize, I am certain, that I have also asked for these public records and not been given them by your agency. I herewith renew my request for these and any others you may have turned over to the Archives, aside from whatever copies remain in your custody or accessible to you.

It is difficult for me to consider it merely an oversight, carelessness or anything other than willful of lethal suppression that I have been denied access to what cannot properly be denied me. In addition to other applicable law and regulation, it is my belief this is an open violation of the Freedom of Information Act, in this context, "so-called".

This belief is fortified by the unquestionable official suppression relating to just this evidence that is already a matter of public record, if no attention has been given it. In the event it has escaped your attention, let me refer you to the statements of Commission counsel when he introduced Exhibit 397 into evidence (3H357):

"...the identical document which has previously been identified as Commission No. 371 for our internal purposes."

If you will examine the printed version of Commission No. 371, published as Exhibit 397 (17H39-40), you will not find the enclosed page from it, the receipt by your agency to Admiral Burkley. But this page at the top is clearly identified as "Commission No. 371". By expunging from the evidence this receipt for these documents, their existence was effectively suppressed. In four years of trying, I have not been able to get to study them.

Recently I have restudied the existing evidence about the original autopsy notes. They permit no doubt that your agency received from the Navy certain notes in Dr. Humes' hand-writing that are not in any file and whose existence has been denied me. Specifically, the argumentative receipt your agency gave the Archives to sign when you delivered some originals is in error.

In order that I may know which of you is telling me the truth, for you both cannot be, I ask for a copy of all files you have turned over to the Archives and a record sufficiently specific to permit individual identification of all files on this subject you have maintained and still exist.

Sincerely,

Harold Weisberg